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Message Text

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11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-19

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DODE-00 DRC-01 /118 W
---------- 084824
P 091020Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3700
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I AL ATHENS 3535

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UK, US, GR
SUBJECT: GREEK ISSUE AT NATO MINISTERIAL

REF: A. STATE 117646; B. LONDON 07057

1. EMBASSY HAS NOTED HARTMAN/SYKES EXCHANGE DESCRIBED
STATE 117646. WE SEE NO BILATERAL OR NATO ADVANTAGE IN U.S.
ASSUMING THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR DEFENSE OF GREEK REGIME IN NATO.

2. FORM EMBASSY STANDPOINT, IN VIEW OF CHARACTER AND
INSTABILITY OF PRESENT REGIME THERE COULD BE ADVANTAGES
IF OTHER NATO ALLIES CHOSE TO AIR GREEK ISSUE AT NATO
MINISTERIAL IN OTTAWA. I WONDER IF IT DOES NOT MAKE MORE
SENSE AT THIS POINT IN TIME FOR US TO LET THE GREEKS TAKE
ON THE BURDEN OF DEFENDING THEMSELVES IN NATO FORUM.
IN VIEW OF EMPHASIS OF GREEK REGIME ON ITS OWN INDEPENDENCE
AND ON PRINCIPLE OF NON-INTERVENTION IN INTERNAL
AFFAIRS, FROM US STANDPOINT I THINK SUCH A POSTURE WOULD
BE PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE AND COULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS
SINCE IT WOULD MAKE CLEAR TO GREEKS THAT OTHER COUNTRIES
DEEPLY INTERESTED IN GREEK SITUATION AS IT AFFECTS COHESIVE-
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NESS OF ATLANTIC ALLIANCE. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD

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DIFFUSE RESPONSIBILITY FOR POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN
GREECE AS THEY AFFECT THE ALLIANCE AMONG ALLIANCE MEMBERS
RATHER THAN CONCENTRATE IT UPON US RPT US AS HAS BEEN CASE
OVER PAST FOUR YEARS.

3. FURTHER IF IT BECOMAME KNOWN , AS IT IS ALMOST BOUND
TO BE , THAT US ACTIVELY SEEKING TO DISCOURAGE CRITICISM
OF GREEK REGIME, SPECIALLY AGAINST BACKGROUND OF
INCREASINGLY REPRESSIVE GREEK DOMESTIC POLICIES, IT WOULD
TEND TO CONFIRM PERSISTENT RUMOR THAT US BEHIND
NOVEMBER 25 COUP.
TASCA

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